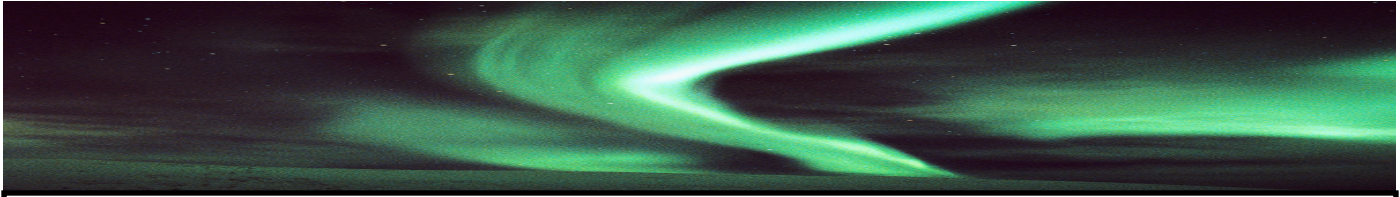


# *The Northern Lights*



Monthly Edition

FY-10

August, 2010

## **Has Your Contact Information Changed?**

Have you moved, changed phone numbers or have a new emergency contact? ZAN needs your new information to update their emergency contact file. Please see anyone on the Admin Staff to update your information.

## **Changes to Payroll Savings Bond Program**

As part of the Government's push for efficiency, the Treasury Department has announced it will stop issuing paper Savings Bonds through payroll deductions for Federal employees after September 30. An employee can make changes through Employee Express until September 23. After that date, the Savings Bond option will no longer be available through Employee Express.

Even though paper Savings Bonds will no longer be available after September 23, employees will still have the opportunity to invest in electronic, paperless Savings Bonds through TreasuryDirect. TreasuryDirect offers a convenient and secure web-based system to purchase, manage, and redeem these paperless Savings Bonds. TreasuryDirect is available 24/7 at: <http://www.treasurydirect.gov/>.



**For additional information about this change, please visit to the DOT Intranet at:**  
<http://dotnet.dot.gov/index.html>.

## **Child Care Subsidy Matters**

The FAA Child Care Subsidy Program is intended to provide an incentive for the use of safe and reliable day care and thus, to improve FAA employee productivity and morale. FAA employees who meet the specific eligibility requirements included in this program description may apply for Child Care Subsidy assistance. This benefit is based on the availability of funds each fiscal year.

The FAA has contracted with ASIWorks, Inc., a private administrative services organization, to manage this program. Please visit our website [www.asiworks.com](http://www.asiworks.com) to learn more about ASIWorks, Inc.

## Today in Aviation History

### EARTS

**Aug 4, 1980:** FAA commissioned the first En Route Automated Radar Tracking System (EARTS) at the Air Route Traffic Control Center in Anchorage, Alaska. The system was the product of contracts with Sperry Rand's Univac Division announced by FAA in July 1974 and August 1976 (See Aug 10, 1976). Developed for the special needs of the widely dispersed centers at Anchorage, Honolulu, and San Juan, EARTS was simpler and less costly than the automated systems used to track en route traffic at centers within the contiguous U.S. It was essentially an expanded Automated Radar Terminal System (ARTS III) modified for en route operations by adding a plan view display component. FAA commissioned Hawaii's EARTS in Jul 1982 and Puerto Rico's in Dec 1982. (See Mar 1984)

Source: FAA Historical Chronology, 1926-2008

### Collective Bargaining Agreement

**Aug 1, 1993:** A new collective bargaining agreement between FAA and the National Air Traffic Controllers Association (NATCA) went into effect. The four-year agreement covered all operational air traffic control specialists in terminals and centers.

Source: FAA Historical Chronology, 1926-2008

## Everyday Heart Health Tips

If you're not convinced about the need to develop an exercise program for your life, you can at least try following some of these tips in your everyday routine. Take advantage of any opportunity for exercise. Try some today.

- Take the stairs instead of an elevator or escalator at work or the mall. Just start with one flight. Soon, you'll be ready for two.
- Park your car at the far end of the parking lot. The short walk to and from the store or school helps your heart.
- If you ride a bus or subway, get off a stop before your destination. Walk the rest of the way.
- If you can, spend a few minutes of your lunch break taking a stroll around the campus grounds. It should help you stay awake after lunch.
- Think of housework as an extra chance to exercise. Vacuuming briskly can be a real workout.
- Mowing the lawn, pulling weeds, and raking leaves are chores that can be done yourself as a chance to exercise.
- If you have a dog, think of the dog as an exercise machine with fur. A brisk walk with the dog is good for both of your hearts. Make it a part of your daily routine.
- If you have a family, schedule an after-dinner walk. Make it quality time.



Source: <http://www.fi.edu/learn/heart/healthy/tips.html>

# ZAN Food Drive

**Benefiting the Food Bank of Alaska**



Please help Alaskans in need. All food will be donated to the Food Bank of Alaska and distributed in our community. Please drop off your non-perishable goods in the collection bins located in the upstairs break room or downstairs by the recycling bin near the Ready Room.

**Weekly Themes:**

**Week 1: Breakfast**

**Week 2: Kids Food/Peanut butter and jelly**

**Week 3: Dinner**

**Week 4: Anything goes**

## August 1- August 31

For more information, contact Melissa Politsch, x1463



## IdeaHub is Live: Log on and share your ideas!

**FROM:** Secretary Ray LaHood

Got an idea to share? IdeaHub is now live! Log on and share your innovative ideas on how you can make DOT better. Visit [www.DOTIdeaHub.gov](http://www.DOTIdeaHub.gov) today. We're listening, and your colleagues are listening and ready to hear from you.



Please direct any questions to [DOTIdeaHub@dot.gov](mailto:DOTIdeaHub@dot.gov).

### August Payroll & Holiday Calendar

August							
	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
17	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
18	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
19	29	30	31				

■ - Payday    ○ - Pay Period Begins

### Did you know?

Murphy's Law is a witticism which states that 'anything that can possibly go wrong will go wrong'. The Law came into recognition at the Edward's Air force Base at North Base in 1949. It was named after Captain Edward Murphy, who had been working on an Air Force Project MX981, which was designed to see the level of deceleration one can stand during an air crash. During a particular incident, after discovering a faulty wiring of transducer, Murphy cursed the technician responsible by saying "If there is any way to do it wrong, he will find it." The contractor's project manager, who kept a list of all the laws, named this one as 'Murphy's Law'. Murphy hated when someone used his name for absurd theories of "Why does buttered bread always land butter-side down?" He was the victim of his own Law.

### Promotions

7-1-10 Jason Price to D1  
7-9-10 Andrew Rockey to D3  
7-30-10 Jesse Williams to D1 and D2



### Retirements

7-31-10 Martha Dunn  
7-31-10 Ray Harris



### Transfers to ZAN

7-4-10 Aaron McCartan



# Alaska State Fair

**Date:** Aug 26, 2010 - Sep 6, 2010 **Time:** All Day **Location:** Palmer  
**More Info:** [www.alaskastatefair.org](http://www.alaskastatefair.org)

*Each fall, the Fair provides a setting for Alaska's last blast of summer, a showcase of Alaska's uniqueness and beauty. Lush flower gardens, record-setting giant vegetables, endless food and entertainment - the Alaska State Fair is for all ages. The fair will feature performances by Hinder, Lonestar, Darryl Worley, Shinedown, and Boyz 2 Men.*



## Anchorage School District Calendar 60-day Highlights:

### AUGUST

18 Grades 2-12 begin classes  
24 Grades K-1 begin classes

### SEPTEMBER

6 Labor Day, No School



Congratulations to Erika Sorum,  
who has been promoted to  
Lieutenant Colonel  
in Alaska Air National Guard



Source: <http://www.futureairlinepilot.com>



Snickers Watkins, the Toy Pomeranian  
caught her first halibut on a trip out of Anchor Point.



Thinking about retirement? Free retirement seminars are given in Anchorage and Fairbanks for CSRS and FERS employees as listed below. If you would like more information on enrolling in a seminar, please visit <http://www.fea.gov/Documents/Training%20Documents/FAA%20FY-10%20Pre-Retirement%20Schedule.htm> or call (800)696-3511.

Snow Cap Agency, Inc

Page 1 of 2



## **FREE CSRS and FERS Benefits Training for 2010!**

**Presented By: SNOW FEDERAL SEMINARS & ChFEB, INC.**

**FEDERAL EMPLOYEES BENEFITS TRAINING**

**Seating is limited!!**

### **PRE-RETIREMENT SEMINAR**

**Attend this informational, hands-on, no-cost seminar to help you understand your government benefits and help you learn how to become financially ready to retire.**

**CSRS, FERS, Firefighters, Air Traffic Control, and Law Enforcement Officer**

**Spouses are welcome to attend!**

**Classes are from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM**

LOCATION	FERS – FAA96855	CSRS – FAA96856
<b>Anchorage, Alaska</b> Federal Building Annex 222 W. 8th Avenue Mod G, Conf. Rm. A, B, C	(SO 25011) - Wednesday, October 21, 2009 (SO 29865) - Wednesday, December 2, 2009 (SO 29869) - Wednesday, January 13, 2010 (SO 29871) - Wednesday, March 17, 2010 (SO 29872) - Wednesday, April 14, 2010 (SO 29875) - Wednesday, July, 21, 2010 (SO 29878) - Wednesday, September 15, 2010 (SO 29879) – Wednesday, October 20, 2010	(SO 25017) - Thursday, October 22, 2009 (SO 29891) - Thursday, December 3, 2009 (SO 29897) - Thursday, March 18, 2010 (SO 29899) – Thursday, October 21, 2010
<b>Fairbanks, Alaska</b> Wesmark Hotel 813 Noble Street	(SO 31445) - Tuesday, January 5, 2010 (SO 29881) - Wednesday, April 21, 2010 (SO 29886) - Wednesday, September 22, 2010	(SO 31446) – Wednesday, January 6, 2010 (SO 29901) - Thursday, April 22, 2010 (SO 29903) - Thursday, September 23, 2010

<http://www.fea.gov/Documents/Training%20Documents/FAA%20FY-10%20Pre-Retirement%20Schedule.htm>

8/3/2010



If you have comments, suggestions, or input for the next newsletter, please contact Krista Jeppsen, x1134.

